IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
		:	Examiner: E. Martello
HIDEO NORO, ET AL.)	
		:	Group Art Unit: 2628
Application No.: 10/594,114)	
		:	Confirmation No.: 7038
Filed: September 25, 2006)	
		:	
For:	IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD)	June 4, 2009
	AND IMAGE PROCESSING	:	
	APPARATUS)	

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and in response to the final Office Action dated March 4, 2009, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified application as follows: